

September 2011



Grade one - first steps

We have been so happy to see the children settle into Grade One so quickly and easily. The children are learning the routines and procedures in the classroom.

In the month of September our students will be learning these things in literacy and mathematics:

Mathematics:

- Counting numbers: forwards, backwards, counting on, counting back, sequencing, using number lines and counters.
- Correct number formation
- Addition
- Patterns
- Shapes—2D and 3D shapes
- Measurement (length)

Literacy:

- Phonics review and digraphs
- Guided Reading: guided reading books will be sent home from 19th.Sept.
- Shared reading, individual reading.
- Writing: journals, stories, class books and other short tasks.
- Handwriting: correct letter formation.

Grade one students invade the Post Office!

Our trip to the Post Office and Merl Park was a great success, thank you to those who helped. The weather held out and the students had a great time. Our trip to the Post Office was our introduction to our first unit: Families at Home.

In this unit, our goal is for the students to understand that:

- Homes are constructed differently by humans and animals (and why)
- There are many different kinds of homes
- We build houses for different reasons
- The environment influences the structure of homes (their design and the materials we use)
- We can make homes safe

To come to these understandings, we will be:

- Constructing model houses
- Observing houses in the local community
- Reading fiction, non-fiction and poetry about houses and watching videos about the stages of house construction. Learning about the people involved in house construction and the stages in building a house.
- Talking about and describing the children's own houses as well as houses around the world. Comparing these and finding reasons why they are different or the same.
- Beginning map activities

We have a trip around our community on the 28th September, a note home will follow soon.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET

- **PE shoes:** All children need a pair of trainers/joggers for PE, preferably with Velcro fastening.
- **Clothing suitable for the weather:** please be aware of changeable conditions.